Attorney Locket No. <u>027651-225</u>

MAY 0 2 2006 W

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent No.: 6,367,375

Sijem Sipma et al.

Application No.: 10/821,280

Filed: April 9, 2004

For: APPARATUS FOR CUTTING AND STIRRING CURD

O Group Art Unit: 1761

Examiner: Timothy F. Simone
Confirmation No.: 1048

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF SJOERD HUITEMA UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.175(b)(1)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant, Sjoerd Huitema, hereby declares that he is a joint inventor residing at Tunkersstrjitte 50, 8723EP Koudum, The Netherlands.

Sjoerd Huitema, a citizen of The Netherlands, residing in Koudum, The Netherlands, and having a post office address of Tunkersstrjitte 50, 8723EP Koudum, The Netherlands, and Sijmen Sipma, a citizen of The Netherlands residing in De Knipe, The Netherlands, and having a post office address of Houtbaas 5, 8456HW De Knipe, The Netherlands, declare that they, the named inventors, are the first, original and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought in the above-identified Reissue Patent Application.

Applicant verily believes the original United States Letters Patent No. 6,367,375 (hereinafter the '375 patent) to be partly inoperative by reason of the Patentees' claiming less than they had a right to claim in the patent.

Since the time of issuance of the '375 patent, and by virtue of an independent study of the claims of the '375 patent, Petitioner has become aware that independent claim 1 of the '375 patent has certain limitations that unnecessarily restrict the scope of protection afforded by the patent. Examples of such limitations are that the claims are directed to the

Declaration Of Sjoerd Huitema Under 37 C.F.R. S 1.175(b)(1)
Reissue Application of U.S. Patent No. 6,467,475
Application No. 10/821,280
Attorney's Docket No. 027651-225
Page 2

tank combination and none of the claims are directed to the cutting frame per se and that claim 1 states that the transverse knives are mounted on the frame girders "by welding". Further in dependent claim 4, the longitudinal knives are stated to be connected to the transverse knives "by welding".

In addition, claim 1 defines the shape of the openings as circular or oval. The invention involves having openings larger than the longitudinal knives. Therefore, claim 1 is unnecessarily narrow. Applicant has claimed less than he had the right to claim.

Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and is not covered by a prior Oath/Declaration submitted in this application, arose without deceptive intention on the part of the Applicant.

Applicant has reviewed and understands the contents of the specification, including the amended claims and the new claims presented in the above-identified Reissue Patent Application.

Applicant claims the right of priority of The Netherlands Patent Application

No. 1013038, filed September 17, 1999, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119, and the priority of U.S.

Patent Application No. 09/659,994, filed September 12, 2000, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicant acknowledges the duty to disclose all information known to the Applicant to be material to patentability of the above-identified Reissue Patent Application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

Declaration Of Sjoerd Huitema Under 3/ C.F.R. S 1.175(b)(1) Reissue Application of U.S. Patent No. 6,467,475 Application No. 10/821,280 Attorney's Docket No. 027651-225 Page 3

Applicant further declares that all statements made herein of Applicant's own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 28/02/2006